

REMARKS

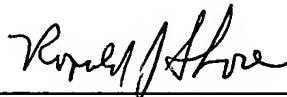
As noted above, the specification as filed corresponds to the substitute specification filed in parent application serial no. 09/577,671 on Feb. 7, 2003. The above amendments to the specification make several corrections to the specification and abstract as filed and add a reference to the parent application on page 1 of the specification. Claims 1-13 filed herewith are new claims. Claims 1-13 are in the application.

An Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith cites the documents of record in the parent application.

An early action on the merits is requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 501.38505CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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RJS/kmh

Attachments